#### **Data Sheet**

USAID Mission: Regional Center for Southern Africa
Program Title: Improved Management of Selected River Basins

Pillar: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

Strategic Objective: 690-017
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation: \$2,573,000 DA

Prior Year Unobligated: \$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation: \$2,240,000 DA
\$2,240,000 DA

Year of Final Obligation:

FY 2004
Year of Final Obligation:

FY 2010

**Summary:** USAID's program to improve the management of specific international river basins in Southern Africa includes training and technical assistance to strengthen the institutional capacity of relevant institutions to protect and manage river basin resources and to increase community involvement in the use and protection of basin resources at the local level.

## Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

## FY 2004 Program:

Strengthen the ability of river basin commissions and relevant national institutions to develop, negotiate, and implement river basin management plans (\$1,400,000 DA). When more than one country shares a river basin, the actions of the upstream countries affect the water supply and biodiversity of the downstream countries. In coordination with other donors, USAID will provide technical assistance to strengthen the institutional framework of the Okavango River Basin Commission (OKACOM) and the corresponding natural resource, tourism, and agriculture institutions of the three countries--Angola, Namibia, and Botswana--that share the Okavango River Basin. With FY 2004 funds, USAID will support baseline studies on laws and regulations that govern the use of water and the river basin in the three countries, and will work with OKACOM to develop norms and standards for policies and decision-making. Since decision-making depends on good information, technical experts will help OKACOM select and develop analytical tools and data-gathering systems. Principal contractor or grantee: To be determined.

Improve community management of critical watershed and river basin areas (\$1,173,000 DA). Prior to selecting target communities in which to work, USAID will fund baseline socio-economic and land use studies in the watershed and river basin areas of the Okavango River. The program will work with local leaders in the selected communities to establish water committees to guide later activities and to represent stakeholders with the river basin institutions. Where needed, the program will help communities form land trusts and to clarify water rights as a first step in the development of resource-based community enterprises. Principal contractor or grantee: To be determined.

# FY 2005 Program:

Strengthen the ability of river basin commissions and relevant national institutions to develop, negotiate, and implement river basin management plans (\$1,100,000 DA). USAID plans to further the organizational development of OKACOM through training in networking, negotiation and decision-making skills, training in use of analytical tools, and the establishment of consultation mechanisms for involving stakeholders. Similarly, USAID expects to work with OKACOM in coordinating the approval of norms and standards, as well as the development of legislation in each country aimed at harmonizing laws and regulations that affect the river basin. USAID may also support the further development of analytical and operational tools, as well as management plans for sectors (such as fisheries) or sub-regions (such as the Caprivi Strip between Namibia and Angola). Principal contractor or grantee: To be determined.

Improve community management of critical watershed and river basin areas (\$1,140,000 DA). Since the purpose of increasing community benefits from existing resources is to give local residents a vested

interest in maintaining them, USAID expects to focus on assisting the development of natural resource-based enterprises in its target communities. Such enterprises usually include tourism, handcrafts, and forest-based products. In pursuing this sort of program, USAID intends to pull in expertise and support from its rural livelihoods and economic competitiveness programs working in the same region. USAID also plans to introduce measures and techniques to increase water productivity in household and farm use, and to begin teaching communities to take responsibility for resource monitoring. Principal contractor or grantee: To be determined.

**Performance and Results:** Since this program is just now beginning under the new RCSA strategy, there are no results to discuss. However, by the end of the strategy expected results include at least one and possibly two river basins with well-functioning river basin commissions. Those commissions will be fora for resolving water disputes and focal points for managing the implementation of approved river basin management plans based on technical analysis and stakeholder input. Community actions in the watersheds and river basins will have resulted in preservation (rather than destruction) of the resource base.

# **US Financing in Thousands of Dollars**

# **Regional Center for Southern Africa**

690-017 Improved Management of Selected River Basins	DA
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	2,573
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	2,573
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	2,240
Future Obligations	13,817
Est. Total Cost	18,630